

24 JUN 1985

Memorandum for the Record

Sanitization/Declassification of Polygraph Material

The purpose of this memorandum is to document the record concerning the sanitization and declassification of certain polygraph material, with a particular focus on documents relating to [redacted] testimony before the Investigations Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee on 6 September 1984.

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*Late in the day on Thursday, 20 June 1985, [redacted] Special Assistant to the DDCI, advised [redacted] that Mr. John McMahon wanted some useful material on our favorable experience with polygraph, to be made available to Congressman Young, who is very supportive of polygraph testing in the Department of Defense. Nothing was said about the need for this material to be unclassified.

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*Early on Friday, 21 June 1985, [redacted] telephonically confirmed the need to have the material as soon as possible, and she was assured that it would be in her hands by mid-day. We sent her an unclassified version of [redacted] September 1984 testimony; a 16-page prepared statement that was classified at the SECRET level; a copy of the yellow book, 17 January 1983 CONFIDENTIAL study on the "CIA Polygraph Program", and a SECOM Personnel Security study on 50 espionage cases, which was stamped "Administrative/Internal Use Only"

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*At approximately 5:30 PM on 21 June, we received a Wang transmission of a message from [redacted] Chief, Legislative Division, OLL, relating to the same basic issue. I called [redacted] and indicated that some documents had already gone to [redacted] and we compared notes on some items that he received from [redacted]

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*At approximately 6 PM on 21 June [redacted] asked about the 16 page SECRET prepared statement, specifically inquiring as to why it was classified. I informally advised that the document may possibly have been overclassified, but we would conduct an expeditious review in an effort to declassify the document, so that it might be made available to Congressman Young. Time was of the essence, and she was told that this review would be completed first thing on Monday.

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*I alerted [] concerning the crash request, and arrangement were made to have the SECRET document transmitted to the Security Duty Office, so that the Polygraph Division could review and comment on the material on Saturday, 22 June. I reviewed the document on Sunday, 23 June; prepared informal comments, and later discussed this with the Director of Security, who was also in on Sunday. Based on his written statements the material was sanitized by mid-morning on Monday, 24 June.

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*On Monday, 24 June 1985, [] called and asked about the possibility of declassifying the one page executive summary from the 1983 study on "CIA Polygraph Program". This was accomplished in short order, because we merely deleted a few words in paragraph 2, relating to the total number of polygraph cases in the Agency.

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*Both sanitized documents were hand carried by about 12:30 PM to [] still seemed to be a bit displeased, and mentioned that John McMahon wanted the actual D/OS testimony declassified, and I said that this had been done earlier. Nevertheless, she wanted everything we had to be hand carried to [] who had the essential action responsibility.

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*I saw [] who was pleased with what had been pulled together, and he admitted that there had been a lot of confusion on what Congressman Young actually wanted, in terms of classification, etc. In any case, John McMahon had already signed a covering memo to Congressman Young, and [] was attaching a lot of polygraph material, including the Office of Technology Assessment study - even though it was lukewarm in support of polygraph. Al was also dealing directly with [] on obtaining SECOM material, including the admin/internal use document.

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*As a side point, it might also be noted that the Washington Post of 23 June 1985 contained a Jack Anderson article opposing polygraph [] and there was some data extracted from the 1983 CIA study.

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